

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A composition for a thick oxide superconducting film, containing a copper salt of a branched saturated aliphatic carboxylic acid having 6 or more carbon atoms and/or a copper salt of an alicyclic carboxylic acid having 6 or more carbon atoms.

2. (Original) The composition for a thick oxide superconducting film according to claim 1, containing yttrium trifluoroacetate and barium trifluoroacetate.

3. (Original) The composition for a thick oxide superconducting film according to claim 1, containing an yttrium salt of a branched saturated aliphatic carboxylic acid having 6 or more carbon atoms and/or an yttrium salt of an alicyclic carboxylic acid having 6 or more carbon atoms, and barium trifluoroacetate.

4. (Currently Amended) The composition for a thick oxide superconducting film according to claim 1 ~~anyone of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the copper salt of a branched saturated aliphatic carboxylic acid having 6 or more carbon atoms and/or the copper salt of an alicyclic carboxylic acid having 6 or more carbon atoms is at least one kind selected from the group consisting of copper neodecanoate, copper isononanoate, copper 2-ethylhexanoate, and copper naphthenate.

5. (Currently Amended) The composition for a thick oxide superconducting film according to claim 1 ~~anyone of claims 1 to 4~~, containing an organic solvent having a

boiling point of 80°C or higher as a solvent.

6. (Currently Amended) The composition for a thick oxide superconducting film according to claim ~~claims~~ 5, which is characterized in that the foregoing organic solvent is 2-octanone.

7. (Currently Amended) An oxide superconductor in the form of a thick film tape, subjecting an oxide superconducting precursor, which is obtained by coating the composition for a thick oxide superconducting film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ on a substrate and then subjecting it to a heat treatment for calcination, to a heat treatment for crystallization, thereby forming a thick oxide superconductor film on the foregoing substrate.

8. (Original) The oxide superconductor in the form of a thick film tape according to claim 7, wherein in the foregoing heat treatment for calcination, a heating rate is 2°C/min or more.

9. (Original) The oxide superconductor in the form of a thick film tape according to claim 7, wherein in the foregoing heat treatment for calcination, the product of the traveling speed of the substrate and the temperature gradient is preferably 2°C/min or more.

10. (Currently Amended) The oxide superconductor in the form of a thick film tape according to claim 7 ~~anyone of claims 7 to 9~~, wherein the foregoing heat treatment for calcination is carried out at 250°C or higher in the atmosphere having a water vapor partial pressure of not more than 2.1% by volume.

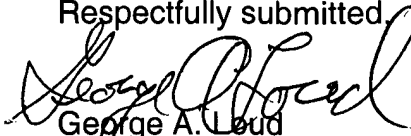
11. (Currently Amended) The oxide superconductor in the form of a thick film tape according to claim 7 ~~anyone of claims 7 to 10~~, wherein a difference between the maximum thickness portion and the minimum thickness portion in the foregoing thick oxide superconducting film is 1 μm or less.

12. (Currently Amended) The oxide superconductor in the form of a thick film tape according to claim 7 ~~anyone of claims 7 to 11~~, wherein the amount of change in critical current density is  $\pm 0.5$  MA/cm<sup>2</sup>.

13. (Currently Amended) The oxide superconductor in the form of a thick film tape according to claim 7 ~~anyone of claims 7 to 12~~, wherein the foregoing thick oxide superconducting film is comprised of  $\text{RE}_{1+x}\text{Ba}_{2-x}\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$  (wherein RE represents at least one element selected from the group consisting of Y, Nd, Sm, Gd, Eu, Yb, Pr and Ho; x represents the number of  $0 \leq x \leq 0.4$ ; and y represents the number of  $6.5 \leq y \leq 7.0$ ).

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Respectfully submitted,



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